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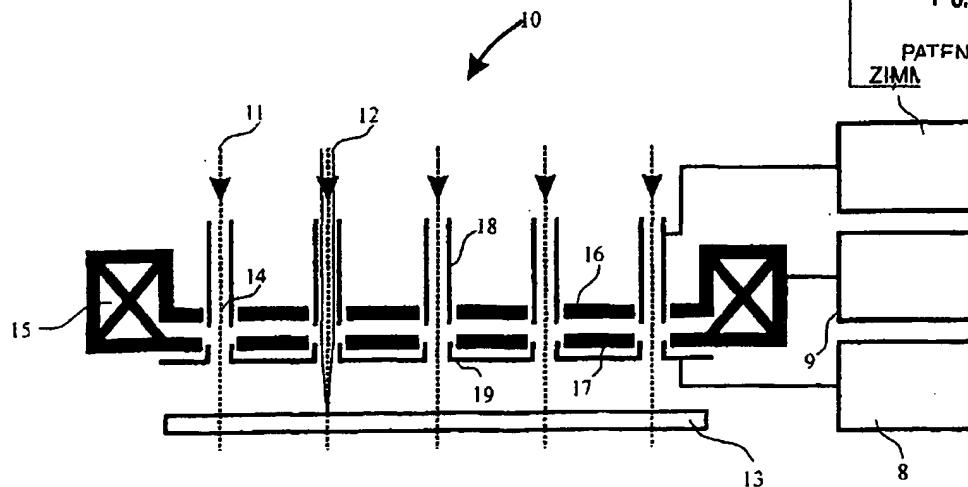
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(54) Title: **MULTI-AXIS COMPOUND LENS, BEAM SYSTEM MAKING USE OF THE COMPOUND LENS, AND METHOD USING THE COMPOUND LENS**

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(57) Abstract: The invention provides an optical system for a charged particle multi-beam system. The optical system comprises an electrostatic lens component and a magnetic lens component. The components are used to focus a plurality of charged particle beams in a separate opening for each of at least a plurality of charged particle beams traveling through the optical system.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/14140

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 H01J37/145 H01J37/317

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 H01J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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